

DESERT AIR MONITOR



A PUBLICATION OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

EXEMPLAR AWARD

VICTOR VALLEY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION AUTHORITY & ADVANCE DISPOSAL AWARDED AIR DISTRICT'S HIGHEST HONOR

A family-owned material recovery facility and the Victor Valley's municipal wastewater treatment plant were recognized by the Governing Board of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, as the District presented its 2013/2014 Exemplar Awards to Advance Disposal Company and the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority for implementing innovative, energy-saving projects which are revolutionizing the waste disposal process, while significantly reducing air pollution emissions.



Advance Disposal was recognized for recently doubling the size of its Hesperia Material Recovery Facility and replacing higher-emitting loading and conveyor equipment with state-of-the-art, fuel efficient equipment, while working to meet the demands of the upcoming 75% state mandated landfill diversion rate, set to commence in 2020. As a result, the newly retooled MRF is now able to process the same amount of material in half the time, with a 50% decrease in fuel emissions, since equipment such as loaders, excavators and skidsters previously required to transfer



New state-of-the-art, fuel efficient conveyor system at Advance Disposal

accepted by Jakob Bath, MRF Operations Manager.

VWRA was awarded the Exemplar for partnering with Anaergia Services LLC of Carlsbad to retrofit a decommissioned anaerobic digester for the purpose of tripling its

sludge and waste co-digesting capacity, and using the resulting biogas as fuel to generate electricity and offset natural gas usage at its Victorville plant. As a result, two combined heat and power engines have been equipped with lean-burn technology and are now operating on digester biogas, supplemented by natural gas. The new engines have replaced two of four existing internal combustion engines, which have resulted in an overall reduction of the facility's nitrogen oxide, volatile organic compound and greenhouse gas emissions. The two remaining combined heat and power engines will run on 100% biogas and be used for backup purposes only. VWRA also modified its formerly high energy-use UV treatment system to run on a single channel, which has reduced emissions from this source by 60% and



New Omnivore™ project at VWRA

further decreased energy demand. The Omnivore™ project – which was commissioned in January of 2014 – is a developing technology, and is the first of its kind in North America. As a result of its introduction, VWRA is currently producing 1.4 MW of electricity onsite and is expected to be 100% energy neutral by the

start of 2015. Gilbert Perez, Director of Operations, accepted the Exemplar Award on behalf of VWRA.

The Exemplar Awards recognize High Desert entities that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to clean air through the development of voluntary activities/projects that reduce or prevent air pollution within the MDAQMD's jurisdiction, which encompasses San Bernardino County's High Desert and Riverside County's Palo Verde Valley. The Exemplar Awards are presented annually in association with National Pollution Prevention Week.

Victorville & Barstow Targeted to Receive Cap-and-Trade Investments Funds

The California Environmental Protection Agency has prioritized disadvantaged communities across the state for projects funded by California's cap-and-trade program. As a result, more than \$200 million of \$832 million in cap-and-trade proceeds from the 2014-2015 budget will be earmarked for low income areas, including the communities of Victorville and Barstow, the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District has announced.

"When you consider the impacts of transported emissions from the Los Angeles basin on the High Desert's air quality and the lingering effects of the recession on our economy, it is gratifying to see that two local communities will directly reap the benefits of the state's cap-and-trade program," commented MDAQMD Executive Director Eldon Heaston.

Projects utilizing those funds include energy efficiency, public transit, affordable housing, and other greenhouse gas-cutting programs. A 2012 State law (Senate Bill 535 - de Leon) requires that at least 25 percent of these cap-and-trade funds be invested for the benefit of the State's most disadvantaged communities. At least 10 percent of those funds must be for projects located within the communities themselves.

CalEPA used census data, public input from workshops and briefings, and the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool to designate the funding areas and ensure that California's most environmentally impacted communities will be eligible for funding. CalEnviroScreen is a science-based tool that





The Desert Air Monitor is a publication of the Mojave Desert AQMD's **COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EDUCATION OFFICE**
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Executive Director

Governing Board

Sup. Robert Lovingood, Chair
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Ed Camargo
City of Adelanto

Barb Stanton
Town of Apple Valley

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County of Riverside

Supervisor James Ramos
County of San Bernardino

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Welcome

District Welcomes Back Three Veteran Board Members

The MDAQMD is proud to welcome back to its Governing Board Town of Apple Valley Mayor Pro Tem Barb Stanton, City of Twentynine Palms Council Member John Cole, and Vice Mayor Jeff Williams from the City of Needles. All were sworn in during the first Board meeting of the year on January 26.

Stanton previously served as the Town of Apple Valley's representative from 2010-2013; she is also a past Board Vice-Chair. Stanton replaces Apple Valley representative Larry Cusack, who served on the MDAQMD Governing Board between 2013 and 2015. Cole replaces City of Twentynine Palms Mayor Pro Tem Dan Mintz who served on the Board from 2013 to 2015. Williams, who formerly served on the Board between 2009 and 2011, replaces Needles Councilmember Terry Campbell, who served from 2011 to 2015.

Veteran Board Member / San Bernardino County First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood was elected MDAQMD Governing Board Chair during the January 26 Board Meeting, while Hesperia Mayor Eric Schmidt was elected Vice Chair.

Many thanks to our outgoing Board members for their dedicated service, and a warm welcome to our new representatives!



Barb Stanton



John Cole



Jeff Williams

COMING INTO COMPLIANCE Preparing for a Successful Gas Station Air Quality Inspection

By Michelle Zumwalt, Air Quality Inspector, Compliance Department



Gas Dispensing Facility staff may wince when they see an air quality inspector walk through their door. But an air quality inspection does not need to be difficult, and with a little planning, the inspection can be quick and painless.

Air quality inspections are not announced in advance and can occur at any time, so preparation and consistency is vital. Typical inspections include the annual inspection, as well as the follow up and complaint inspections.

In addition to maintaining properly functioning equipment, we suggest that GDFs create a binder to maintain records in a central location. Complete records must be provided to District personnel at the time of inspection, and because of this, all GDF staff should be instructed on where the records/binder are located in the event that an inspection finds the owner or manager offsite.

To help facilities achieve compliance, the District offers a no-fault audit, where an inspector will walk through an inspection of the equipment and the records with facility staff. Upon completion, the District will advise the facility of their strengths and weaknesses.

Another valuable resource is the MDAQMD website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov. It provides relevant content such as links to the California Air Resources Board's Executive Orders, the Vapor Recovery Defects List, as well as District forms to help build a facility's record keeping binder.

Please call or e-mail the Compliance Department at (760) 245-1661 ext. 1619 or email at ComplianceAssist@mdaqmd.ca.gov if you have any compliance related questions or if you would like to schedule a no-fault audit.

Quick Steps to Compliance

1. Read, understand & follow the operating permit.
2. Conduct & record timely equipment inspections.
3. Maintain equipment in good working order.
4. Conduct vapor recovery testing annually.
5. Keep required records, & provide upon request.

Annual Title V Certification

As required by current MDAQMD Federal Operating Permits and District Rule 1203 - "Federal Operating Permits" - High Desert business/facilities are required to submit a Compliance Certification Report annually, within 30 days of the anniversary date of the issuance or renewal of their current Federal Operating Permit. Along with District review, the information provided in the annual Compliance Certification Report is entered into the Federal Database. To ensure the proper information is reported, please go to:

<http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov/index.aspx?page=35&recordid=434&returnURL=%2findex.aspx%3fpagel%3d6> and download the guidelines. For more information, contact Supervising AQ Engineer Chris Collins at (760) 245-1661 x 6282.

Reminder



EPA Proposes Smog Standards to Safeguard Americans from Air Pollution

Based on extensive recent scientific evidence about the harmful effects of ground-level ozone, or smog, the Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to strengthen air quality standards to within a range of 65 to 70 parts per billion to better protect Americans' health and the environment, while taking comments on a level as low as 60 ppb. The Clean Air Act requires EPA to review the standards every five years by following a set of open, transparent steps and considering the advice of a panel of independent experts. EPA last updated these standards in 2008, setting them at 75 ppb.

EPA scientists examined numerous scientific studies in its most recent review of the ozone standards, including more than 1,000 new studies published since the last update. Studies indicate that exposure to ozone at levels below 75 ppb – the level of the current standard – can pose serious threats to public health, harm the respiratory system, cause or aggravate asthma and other lung diseases, and is linked to premature death from respiratory and cardiovascular causes. Ground-level ozone forms in the atmosphere when emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds “cook” in the sun from sources like cars, trucks, buses, industries, power plants and certain fumes from fuels, solvents and paints. People most at risk from breathing air containing ozone include people with asthma, children, older adults, and those who are active or work outside. Stronger ozone standards will also provide an added measure of protection for low income and minority families who are more likely to suffer from asthma or to live in communities that are overburdened by pollution. Nationally, 1 in 10 children has been diagnosed with asthma.



According to EPA's analysis, strengthening the standard to a range of 65 to 70 ppb will provide significantly better protection for children, preventing from 320,000 to 960,000 asthma attacks and from 330,000 to 1 million missed school days. Strengthening the standard to a range of 70 to 65 ppb would better protect both children and adults by preventing more than 750 to 4,300 premature deaths; 1,400 to 4,300 asthma-related emergency room visits; and 65,000 to 180,000 missed workdays.

A combination of recently finalized proposed air pollution rules – including Tier 3 clean vehicle and fuels standards – will significantly cut smog-forming emissions from industry and transportation, helping states meet the proposed standards. EPA's analysis of federal programs that reduce air pollution from fuels, vehicles and engines of all sizes, power plants and other industries shows that the vast majority of U.S. counties with monitors would meet the more protective standards by 2025 just with the

rules and programs now in place or underway. Local communities, states, and the federal government have made substantial progress in reducing ground-level ozone. Nationally, from 1980 to 2013, average ozone levels have fallen 33 percent. EPA projects that this will continue.

EPA will seek public comment on the proposal for 90 days following publication in the Federal Register, and the agency plans to hold three public hearings. EPA will issue final ozone standards by October 1, 2015.

“Burn Wise”

SEASON IS HERE

Burn Wise is a partnership program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that emphasizes the importance of burning the right wood, the right way, in the right wood-burning appliance to protect your home, health, and the air we breathe.

Wood stove and fireplace safety tips to help protect your health include more than installing fire alarms and developing a fire escape plan. While less obvious, wood stoves and other wood-burning appliances can produce pollutants that can harm your health, if not addressed.

If you smell smoke inside your home, that's an alarm that harmful air pollutants are in your home. Wood smoke contains a mixture of air pollutants including microscopic particles. Studies show particle pollution can harm the lungs and heart and even cause early death. Particle pollution can trigger asthma attacks, impair lung development in children, increase symptoms of COPD and cause coughing, wheezing, and chest tightness. For people with heart disease, particle pollution is linked to heart attacks, irregular heartbeat, heart failure, and stroke. People at greater risk from particle pollution, including wood smoke, are older adults, children and teens, and people with certain health conditions such as heart or lung disease and asthma. New or expectant mothers may also want to take precautions to protect the health of their babies. Burning the right wood, the right way, in the right wood-burning appliance can reduce harmful air pollution.

According to the United States Fire Administration, fires confined to chimneys, flues or flue burners, accounted for 87 percent of residential building heating fires.

A clean chimney provides good draft for your wood-burning appliance and reduces the risk of a chimney fire. Have your wood-burning appliance and chimney installed by a certified professional and inspected annually.

Burn the Right Wood: Not all wood is the same and you should only burn dry, seasoned wood to reduce particle pollution. Softwoods such as Douglas fir need six months to dry and hardwoods such as oak need at least 12 months. Garbage, plastic, treated lumber, and driftwood should never be burned as they emit toxic fumes and particles. Wet wood is a problem for your health and your pocketbook. It creates a lot of smoke and burns inefficiently, meaning the heat literally goes up in smoke. Buy an inexpensive moisture meter at a hardware store to test the wetness of your wood before burning. Wood should only be used if the moisture content is 20 percent or less.

Burn in the Right Appliance: Like an old car that belches smoke out of the tailpipe, old wood stoves are bad polluters and less efficient. Newer, EPA-certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts (wood stoves designed to fit into a fireplace), reduce air pollutants by 70 percent compared to older models. Within the Burn Wise website you will find information for consumers to make informed decisions about what it means to burn wise. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/> today!



Breathe Right!



California Desert Protection Act 20th Anniversary Workshop Held at MDAQMD

The MDAQMD and the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium welcomed 35 teachers and invited guests to a 20th anniversary celebration of the California Desert Protection Act, the historic legislation that paved the way for the designation of Death Valley, Joshua Tree National Park, and the Mojave National Preserve in 1994. Under the theme "The Remarkable California Desert: an American Icon," teachers were treated to presentations and slide shows from David Lamfrom, a prominent desert conservationist, and former National Geographic Adventure Editor-at-Large Robert "Bob" Earle Howells. In 2013, NatGeo included the Mojave Desert as one of the 100 most remarkable destinations of 'The World's Most Beautiful Places.'



Renowned photo journalist Robert Howells led workshop participants on a photographic journey of Joshua Tree and Death Valley National Parks

"Deserts are spectacular drivers of innovation," said David Lamfrom, Associate Director at the National Parks Conservation Association. "They're not desolate. Often people disregard the desert but they are biodiversity hotspots and there is increasing recognition of deserts. People are starting to 'get it.' While describing various rock formations, flowers, and wildlife, Lamfrom called the Mojave Desert "a living landscape" and said the deserts in Southern California make up one-fourth of all National Park lands in the country. Based on the sheer space allocated, Lamfrom said it was the "most beautiful place in the country." "Our deserts are brimming with life and we're incredibly fortunate to have them."

Howells, a Victorville native and desert enthusiast, has written 1,000's of articles for national magazines, including National Geographic Adventure. He shared photos and tales of his experiences at the nearby national parks and talked about his upbringing in Victorville.

"I combined my two passions, which is the love of the outdoors, traveling and writing," Howells said. "I traveled to the rain forest, Lapland in northern Sweden, and all over the world for Outside Magazine, National Geographic Adventure, but

my heart has always been here in the California desert."

While detailing his many adventures in Death Valley he showed a photo of a highway sign that read "Next Services 72 miles" and curvy roadways. Howells said part of what draws him to the area is that "every approach to Death Valley is wild and rugged" and that there are "no trails" upon arrival. In fact, his most recent work is creating a free GPS-guided smartphone audio tour of national parks across the country with the company "Just Ahead."

Teachers in attendance received free copies of the National Park Service's "Mojave Desert Discovery" curriculum and the "Tortoises Through the Lens" book written by Lamfrom, which is sold at national parks across the country.

"It's really important for our kids to learn about the place they call home," said Violette Roberts, MDAQMD Community Relations & Education Manager, adding that "There's not enough education about the desert. There's so much to appreciate here and who better to show the next generation than educators; and to have a speaker of this caliber, especially home-grown, is wonderful."



David Lamfrom, Associate Director, National Parks Conservation Association, began the celebration with a discussion on the vast biodiversity of the Mojave Desert.

The event was hosted by MDAQMD and MEEC with grant funding provided by the Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts. The workshop was by invitation-only to High Desert educators and also attended by Melissa McClain, Deputy Chief-of-Staff of San Bernardino County First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood's office.

MDAQMD Sponsors "Ride in the Rocks"

The Mojave Desert AQMD was one of several industry and community sponsors for Mitsubishi Cement Corporation Educational Foundation's "Ride in the Rocks," biking event, an annual affair geared for individuals and families. The annual "Ride in the Rocks" event was created by the Foundation to raise money to enhance the educational experience of Lucerne Valley students through the funding of college scholarships and field trips, and to design an event that provides an opportunity for community involvement in support of Lucerne Valley schools.



This year, two adventurous MDAQMD/MEEC employees took on the challenge by way of the five-mile mountain bike ride on November 8th, which ended up being a perfect fall day. Catherine Tran, MDAQMD Air Quality Specialist, and Samantha Murray, MEEC Program Specialist, donned their helmets and bikes to ride amongst more than 150 individuals. Murray finished first in the five mile competition, with Tran placing a close third.

Samantha Murray (background) and Catherine Tran (foreground) prepare to Ride the Rocks!



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SHOOTING THE BREEZE

A BLAST FROM THE PAST...

As yet another new year begins, we invite you to take a journey down MDAQMD memory lane... And remember...

*"There is a way to look at the past.
Don't hide from it. It will not catch you –
if you don't repeat it." (Pearl Bailey)*



At right, former Clerk of the Board Linda Beck (left), Supervising AQ Instrument Technician Bob Ramirez and Supervising AQ Engineer Alan De Salvo (far right) at a CDWAG Conference.



ALL CHOKED UP.

Left, CRE Manager Violette Roberts (center) and former Executive Secretary Rebecca Driscoll man a booth during High Desert Opportunity.



Right, Executive Lead Deanna Hernandez (front) and Records Management Specialist Vilma Landsman perfect the Heimlich Manuever during a training session.



*"Clean Air is
Everybody's
Business!"*

Lead AQ Specialist Victor Ramirez returns from serving in Operation Desert Storm, circa 1991.



Above, First Executive Secretary Jimmie Eix.



Above, Al Cherry, the District's first Air Quality Instrument Technician.

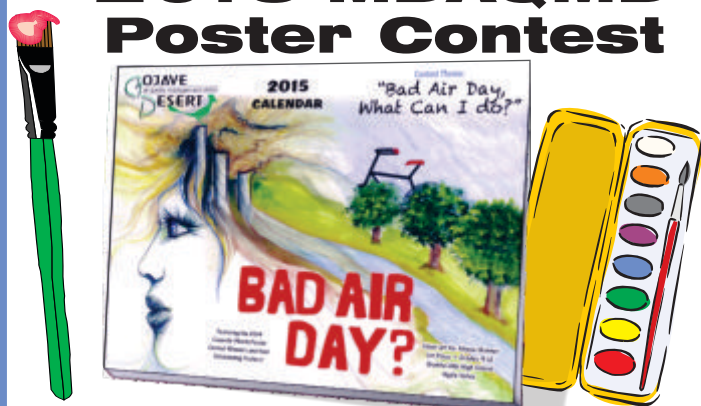


MDAQMD staff visits the AVAPCD, circa 2002.



(Center) Past APCO Chuck Fryxell and MDAQMD Governing Board, circa 2005.

2015 MDAQMD Poster Contest



Calendars Now Available!

The MDAQMD's 2015 Clean Air Month Poster Contest Calendars are here... stop by the MDAQMD and pick up your free copy or contact us at (760) 245-1661 extension 6101 today!

UNITED WE STAND



Dedicated to the memory of those lost in the 9/11 terrorist attack.



MDAQMD staff observes a moment of silence in honor of 9/11 victims, 2001.



The Dirty Truth About Unpaved ROADS!

Unpaved roads are the largest source of particulate air pollution in the country. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, vehicles driving on unpaved roads produce almost five times as much Particulate Matter as construction activities and wind erosion (the next two largest sources) combined. PM or Fugitive Dust are solid particles which come primarily from the soil. Fugitive Dust is caused when soil is disturbed through digging, earthmoving or vehicle traffic. Fugitive Dust contributes to PM pollution that is primarily 10 microns and smaller. PM10 is a harmful mix of soot, chemicals, dust, salts, dirt, metals, smoke and toxins. PM10 also includes even smaller particles called PM 2.5 that can bypass the body's natural defenses and lodge deep in the lungs.

Did you know that a single car traveling an unpaved road once a day for a year produces ONE TON of dust per mile? This translates to 100 tons of Particulate Matter (PM) a year for each mile of road, with an average of 100 vehicles a day! The amount of dust produced is directly related to vehicle speed. The slower you drive on an unpaved road, the less dust is produced. Cutting average vehicle speeds from 40 to 35 mph will reduce dust emissions 40%.

In addition to polluting the air, dust from unpaved roads can be a health problem for nearby residents and for pedestrians. If inhaled in large amounts, PM can cause:

- Breathing difficulties
- Respiratory pain
- Reduced lung function
- Weakened immune system
- Eye irritation
- Increased severity of acute bronchitis, asthma and emphysema
- Heart attacks
- Increased lung cancer risk
- Premature death

Dust storms from unpaved roads can also have dangerous consequences, as blowing PM reduces visibility for both drivers and pedestrians. This can lead to traffic accidents, serious injury or even death. What can you do to help?

Do your lungs a favor and help keep everyone safe by:

- Driving mostly on paved roads.
- Allowing sufficient travel time to avoid shortcuts on unpaved roads.
- If you must drive on an unpaved road, reduce your speed to 15 mph – SLOW DOWN FOR CLEAN AIR!
- Carpooling — Less cars on the road = Less air pollution.
- Walking or riding your bicycle away from unpaved roads, instead of driving.
- Educating your family and neighbors about the health risks and visibility dangers of particulate air pollution from unpaved roads.

The MDAQMD's rules and regulations require certain property owners, contractors, developers, equipment operators and public agencies to control PM emissions from the movement of vehicles on unpaved roads. Regulation IV includes the following applicable rules:

- Rule 401 - Visible Emissions
- Rule 402 - Nuisance
- Rule 403 - Fugitive Dust
- 403.1 - Fugitive Dust Control for the Searles Valley Planning Area
- 403.2 - Fugitive Dust Control for the Mojave Desert Planning Area

(Excerpted from the MDAQMD's "Slow Down for Clean Air" Brochure—2014)

Permit Activity

June 2014 – December 2014

Active Permits	4,022
Permitted Facilities	1,538
Number of Applications	92

Compliance Activity

June 2014 – December 2014

Complaints	82
Notices of Violation	24
Certificates of Occupancy	347

Victorville & Barstow Targeted to Receive Cap-and-Trade Investments Funds

Cont'd from pg. 1

identifies California communities that face the greatest burdens from and vulnerability to multiple sources of pollution. Additionally, CalEPA's actions ensure that State agencies concentrate funding for greenhouse gas emission reductions in those communities.

The percentage of funds designated will probably be higher, according to the Brown Administration, which views SB535 requirements as a minimum. The Air Resources Board, which administers the cap and-trade program, believes that at least one third of the budget appropriation (\$272 million) will be spent on such projects. "California is demonstrating we can combat climate change, create jobs, provide clean air, clean energy and help revitalize our most polluted neighborhoods," said Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon, who authored SB535. "As a state, we are making tangible investments to strengthen and protect our most polluted and underserved neighborhoods."



MDAQMD Participates in First Victor Valley Environmental Awareness Day



High Five (L-R); Monica Peterson, City of Victorville, Violette Roberts, MDAQMD, and Nancy Jackson, SCE, celebrate the success of the first Victor Valley Environmental Awareness Day, which was held on October 17 at the Mall of Victor Valley. Sponsored by the City of Victorville, the event brought together High Desert government and utility agencies to showcase the many environmental services and programs available to local residents.

MDAQMD Highlighted in CSDA's Winter Issue

The MDAQMD was invited by the California Special District Association Magazine to provide a featured article on the annual MDAQMD/MEEC Solar Cook-Off Challenge for the "What's So Special" section of their bi-monthly magazine, after the editor read a highlighted article on the solar event in another CSDA magazine this past summer.



Cameron Elementary (Barstow) team member checks temperature of food during MDAQMD Solar Cook-Off.

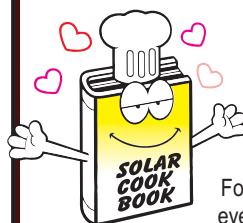
"It's such an excellent, innovative idea; I think it could be great inspiration for other districts," stated Editor Nicole Dunn.

CSDA is a 501 C (6), not-for-profit organization that promotes good governance and improved local services through professional development, advocacy, and other services for independent Special Districts.

This year's Solar Cook-Off Challenge will be held at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley on May 16, 2015 and the public is encouraged to stop by and show the student teams their support.

Recipes

A Solar Cookbook containing winning recipes from the 2014 event can be downloaded at <http://www.meeconline.com/award-winning-solar-oven-cook-off-recipes/>



For more information about the event or how to become an event sponsor, please contact Christie Robinson, Event Coordinator, at: 760-245-1661 ext. 6101 or email:

christier@mdaqmd.ca.gov



2014 CDAWG Spotlights California's Air Quality Issues

Fast becoming one of California's most popular air quality events, the California Desert Air Working Group conference provides a dynamic forum for the exchange of information and quality training on timely, relevant air quality and regulatory issues facing today's environmental professional. The 2014 CDAWG Conference held October 8 & 9 at the Pala Casino Spa & Resort in Pala, California was certainly no exception.



Attendees listen attentively to conference speakers.



Tiffany Roberts, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus, Environmental Policy, provides a legislative update.

"Fostering Sustainability Through Collaborative Clean Air Partnerships" was the theme of the 2014 conference which featured speakers Richard Corey, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board; Kerry Drake, Associate Director/Air Division, USEPA Region IX; and Shasta C. Gaughen, PhD, Environmental Director, Pala Environmental Department, to name a few.

More than 80 representatives of state and local air agencies and the regulated community came together during the two-day conference to network and discuss emerging regulations and challenges to balancing environmental protection with economic sustainability in California's desert regions and beyond.

New this year was a special half-day pre-conference workshop on Western Air Quality Issues and Western Regional Air Partnership study results presented by Tom Moore of the Western Regional Air Partnership, held on Tuesday, October 7. The workshop was a must for regulators and anyone with an interest in learning about the effects of transported emissions on future air quality planning in Western states.

CDAWG conferences are designed to appeal to anyone interested in obtaining technical information or training on timely, air quality and regulatory issues. This year's topics included: "Implications of OEHHA Risk Guidance for AB2588 and CEQA Health Risk Requirements Compliance," "The Future of High Speed Rail in California," "A Solid Success Story: Generating 100% Carbon Neutral Energy at a Wastewater Treatment Plant," and "Interagency Challenges to Solving California's Future Energy Needs." To view 2014 conference presentations visit www.mdaqmd.ca.gov.



Shasta Gaughen, Environmental Director & Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, provides historical background on the Pala Band of Mission Indians' environmental issues.

CARB CHAIR ATTENDS SOLAR PLANT INAUGURATION IN HINKLEY



(Left): Eldon Heaston and Mary D. Nichols, Chairman of the California Air Resource Board at the inauguration ceremonies on January 23rd

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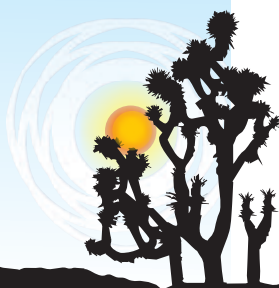


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Mojave Desert A&WMA Chapter Named Among Best Performing Sections/Chapters in Membership Development

The Mojave Desert Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association has been selected as one of the Best Performing Sections and Chapters in Membership Development for 2014 and ranked in the top third out of more than 30 other Chapters or Sections throughout North America and Saudi Arabia. The Mojave Desert Chapter is based out of the MDAQMD and was founded by District staff and management.

The strength of A&WMA has always been the dedication of its members and volunteer leaders, and the Mojave Desert Chapter has worked diligently to increase memberships for the High Desert Chapter through its work with college students, new District employees, other environmental agency employees, and regulated industry staff. "We believe our success is due to regional collaborative efforts, in conjunction with A&WMA," states Alan De Salvio, Supervising Air Quality Engineer and current A&WMA Chapter Chair. Additionally, the Mojave Chapter works diligently to recruit members from the regulated community, involve them on the chapter's board, and at all levels. The Chapter is also a regular sponsor of the annual California Desert

Air Working Group Conference, which serves as a vehicle for recruiting new members, and as the Chapter's most prolific exhibitor opportunity. The Chapter also partners with CDAWG and the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium in getting the word out about the Chapter and its many activities.

The Mojave Desert Chapter has developed a very positive and visible profile in the community through its involvement with education and schools in the High Desert. The Chapter co-sponsors and provides member judges for the annual Outstanding Environmental Science Project Awards held at schools throughout the Mojave Desert and is also a co-sponsor of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's Annual Clean Air Month Poster Contest, which receives an average of 800 entries a year. Winning posters from the contest are included in an annual calendar which includes AWMA's logo and is distributed throughout the Mojave Desert. Funding for both of these activities is gleaned from profits realized through Chapter membership luncheons.

This prestigious award will be announced in the A&WMA Sections' and Chapters Council newsletter later this year and De Salvio recently participated in the Sections and Chapters Council Meeting conference call on January 21, 2015.